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March 23, 2011

Via ECF

Honorable Magistrate Judge Esther Salas United States District Court for the District of New Jersey 50 Walnut Street Newark, New Jersey 07101

Re: Mechin v. Carquest, et al. Our File No.: 571-1003

Dear Judge Salas:

We represent Voltec Industries LLC in the above-referenced matter.

We write in response to plaintiff's March 22, 2011 letter requesting a briefing schedule for a proposed Rule 11 motion. The basis for plaintiff's motion is his claim that defendants had no reasonable basis to move for summary judgment based on the "innocent seller" doctrine¹. Plaintiff claims that defendants cannot show that the Chinese manufacturer, TMC Electrical Limited, who plaintiff elected not to sue, does not have a presence in the United States and therefore is not a viable defendant under N.J.S.A. 2A:58C-9. Plaintiff cites certain evidence which he claims is contradictory and does not support Voltec's "innocent seller" defense. Voltec submits that the testimony cited by plaintiff is incomplete and that there is sufficient evidence that the Chinese manufacturer, TMC Electrical, has a presence in the United States, and that there is no evidence that TMC Electrical lacks assets or is otherwise bankrupt.

Plaintiff's application is unsavory legal gamesmanship, nothing more. All *Daubert* and summary judgment motions are pending before Judge Wigenton. To the extent plaintiff believes he has a basis upon which to oppose any aspect of Voltec's motion, the proper procedure is to make that argument in his opposition brief and in connection therewith, seek whatever affirmative relief to which he thinks he may be entitled. The subject request is ill-conceived, improper and is more properly dealt with in connection with the motion to which it pertains, the summary judgment motion pending before Judge Wigenton.

We respectfully ask your Honor to note that plaintiff is now engaged in his second go-round of affirmative summary judgment motions against the defendants. Over defendants' objection, plaintiff obtained permission to and filed summary judgment motions that Judge Wigenton noted were

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¹ Voltec's summary judgment motion was not solely based on the "innocent seller" doctrine.

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premature. Plaintiff has once again filed motions seeking the identical relief, causing defendants to have to oppose what we believe to be a factually and legally inaccurate motion for the second time. Notwithstanding, Voltec has not and does not now invoke Rule 11; rather, Voltec will submit the appropriate opposition in accordance with Judge Wigenton's briefing schedule.

Based on the foregoing, we respectfully request that plaintiff's application be denied. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Very truly yours,

Scott Haworth

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SLH/blg

cc: Via ECF

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